



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

312 SOUTH HILL STREET, THIRD FLOOR
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90013
(213) 974-6100
<http://oig.lacounty.gov>

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

JANICE HAHN
HILDA L. SOLIS
MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
SHEILA KUEHL
KATHRYN BARGER

MAX HUNTSMAN
INSPECTOR GENERAL

June 25, 2020

Sheriff Alex Villanueva
Los Angeles Sheriff Department
211 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Sheriff Villanueva,

As you know, medical experts have concluded that the wearing of masks is the most effective tool we have with which to fight the ongoing deadly pandemic. Accordingly the governor has ordered all Californians to wear masks in public when they cannot remain six feet apart.

In responding to recent deputy involved shootings I have been deeply saddened to see absolutely no sworn personnel wearing masks while in close proximity, from deputies to executive staff. In response to your latest remark on Twitter, a member of the public posted a video of you and staff in public and in close proximity, also without masks. I hope the video was taken before the governor's order.

My staff have requested but not received copies of directives on masks and therefor do not know whether the conduct is the result of directives given or supervision. I implore you and your law enforcement agency to assist emergency public health efforts by setting a positive example for the public.

Sincerely,



Max Huntsman
Inspector General

MH:sg

c: Supervisor Hilda Solis
Supervisor Mark Ridley Thomas
Supervisor Sheila Kuehl
Supervisor Janice Hahn
Supervisor Kathryn Barger, Chair
Mary Wick, County Counsel
Sachi A. Hamai, Chief Executive Officer
Dr. Ferrer, Director of Public Health
Brian Williams, Executive Director, Sheriff's Civilian Oversight Commission